

RELEASED IN FULL

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| | DODE-00 | DOTI-00 | PDI-00 | DS-00 | EAP-00 | EB-00 | EUR-00 |
| | FAAE-00 | FBIE-00 | UTED-00 | H-00 | TEDE-00 | LAB-01 | NRRRC-00 |
| | NSAE-00 | ISN-00 | PA-00 | PM-00 | GIWI-00 | ISNE-00 | SP-00 |
| | IRM-00 | FMP-00 | BBG-00 | R-00 | ECA-00 | IIP-00 | SSD-00 |
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SUBJECT: Media Reaction: Secretary of State Rice's
 European Trip

1. On December 8 the independent, liberal Stockholm
 tabloid "Expressen" opined that "Live As You Teach."

"The White House definition of torture as outlined in a
 memo from the Department of Justice is so narrowly
 defined that it in practice only encompasses the most
 severe pains of the death struggle....

"Against this background Secretary Rice's 'explanation'
 appears just as unsatisfactory, to say the least. But
 it is in the U.S. interest to change tracks: Much of
 the room for action that the U.S. has today is the
 result of the legitimacy it built up during the 20th
 century with blood, sweat, and tears, primarily during
 and after WWII.

"The intelligence gains that the country possibly will
 win by using the torture weapon are nothing compared to
 the losses it will suffer when its legitimacy becomes
 undermined and aversion to the U.S. grows. America will
 only reap the whirlwind if it squanders its
 credibility. If the country follows the high ideals it
 teaches, the U.S. - as well as the world - will become
 a better place to live in."

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2. On December 8 West Sweden's liberal daily "Gteborgs-Posten" editorialized on "Europe - The U.S. Own Backyard," stating that,

"Unfortunately there are reasons to scrutinize all that is said from American official quarters about torture, secret prisons, and transfers of prisoners....

"Condoleezza Rice began her trip to Europe with the same arrogance as President George W. Bush and his administration have displayed toward European allies, among which Sweden should also be included. We are part of European defense cooperation, which implies NATO, and we have troops in Afghanistan.

"It is welcome that Rice has come down a peg since, but it is very unsatisfactory that the U.S. can allow itself to treat Europe as its own backyard. The need for a common EU foreign, security, and defense policy is all too clear. Only if we keep together can we... expect to be treated as a partner by the U.S. If the split within the EU continues, we can count on - when needed - being treated as a bunch of banana republics.
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